

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

Claims 5, 18, and 19 have been amended. The specification has been amended. Thus, claims 1-24 remain pending in the present application. No new matter has been added. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 7 and 14-17 contain allowable subject matter and that claims 23 and 24 are allowed. However, in light of the above amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all presently pending claims are in condition for allowance.

II. THE SPECIFICATION OBJECTION SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

The specification stands objected to because the Abstract was not submitted on a separate page. Pursuant to the Examiner's request, the Abstract is submitted herewith on a separate page. Thus, the withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

III. THE 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) REJECTION SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 1, 2, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for being anticipated by Wilcox (U.K. Patent App. No. GB 2238930).

Claim 1 recites, "[a] method for communicating an emergency signal comprising: varying a repetition rate of an *unmodulated* long-wave carrier in an on/off keyed manner in a predetermined sequence and at a predetermined phase angle; generating an electromagnetic wave with a resulting signal in which a primary propagation mode is via magnetic field and which has a reduced electric field; and transmitting a resulting signal as the emergency signal."

Wilcox discloses a signal that is transmitted from a sensor to a remote receiver by an electromagnetic link between the transmitter and receiver, wherein "the electromagnetic link is established between a transmitter coil or loop aerial through which a frequency and/or amplitude modulated current flows." (See Wilcox, Abstract). The Examiner refers to page 7 of the Wilcox disclosure to meet the limitations of claim 1.

Wilcox merely states that the transmitter transmit a varying magnetic signal and states that the “variation can be of the signal on/off type.” (See Id., p. 7, ll. 3-6). In this portion of the disclosure, Wilcox is silent as to whether the signal is modulated or not. Wilcox does, however, subsequently disclose that “the transmitter can incorporate a circuit for generating a sinusoidal wave form current which is used to provide a carrier wave magnetic signal from the aerial, which wave is **modulated** by applying changes to its amplitude and/or frequency.” (See Id., ll. 10-14). So Wilcox actually teaches away from the claimed invention because the signal in Wilcox is modulated. Accordingly, Wilcox fails to disclose or suggest “varying a repetition rate of an **unmodulated** long-wave carrier in an on/off keyed manner in a predetermined sequence and at a predetermined phase angle,” as recited in claim 1 and similarly in claim 18. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 18 are allowable over Wilcox. Because claim 2 depends on and, therefore, contains all of the limitations of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this claim is also allowable.

IV. THE 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) REJECTIONS SHOULD BE WITHDRAWN

Claims 3, 5, 6, and 8-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Wilcox in view of Ahmed (U.S. Patent No. 7,151,913).

Claim 5 has been amended and now recites “[a] method for communicating an emergency signal comprising: transmitting an alarm sequence as a predetermined repeating on/off sequence of a predetermined **unmodulated** longwave frequency at a predetermined phase angle using a magnetic field as a primary mode of propagation and with a reduced electric field; identifying by one or more repeaters the alarm sequence; synchronizing the one or more repeaters to the alarm sequence; and rebroadcasting the alarm sequence from the one or more repeaters in synchronism with a source of the alarm sequence. “

As previously stated, Wilcox fails to disclose or suggest the use of an unmodulated long-wave carrier. Applicants respectfully submit that Ahmed fails to cure the deficiencies of Wilcox because the signal in Ahmed is “an electromagnetic wave that

has been **modulated** in some fashion.” (See Ahmed, col. 3, ll. 40-41). Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Wilcox and Ahmed, taken alone or in any combination, fail to disclose or suggest “transmitting an alarm sequence as a predetermined repeating on/off sequence of a predetermined **unmodulated** longwave frequency at a predetermined phase angle using a magnetic field as a primary mode of propagation and with a reduced electric field,” as recited in claim 5 and similarly in claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 5 and its dependent claims 6 and 8-13 are allowable. Because claim 3 depends on and, therefore, contains all of the limitations of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is also allowable.

Claims 4 and 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being obvious over Wilcox.

As previously stated, Wilcox fails to disclose or suggest “varying a repetition rate of an unmodulated long-wave carrier in an on/off keyed manner in a predetermined sequence and at a predetermined phase angle,” as recited in claim 1. Because claim 4 depends on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is also allowable.

Furthermore, since claim 19 recites, in relevant portion, “a shielded antenna to receive a transmission at an unmodulated predetermined longwave carrier,” it is respectfully submitted that claim 19 and its dependent claims 20-22 are also allowable for at least the above mentioned reasons presented with regard to claim 1.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submits that all of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance. All issues raised by the Examiner having been addressed, an early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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